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PRIMARY ACTIVITIES — Students at Dansville Primary School were busy with a variety of activities last week. Above, Russell Garrison, left, and Dean Forrester, kindergartners, were ahead in the roundup at Cowpony Corral when the camera stopped their action. At lower left, Matt Mehlenbacher is a study of concentration as he works on a problem. At right, these three were preparing Valentines as they worked in the art room. They are (from left) Dana Perkins, Jeff Swift and Peter Wensel.

Alternate Study Program Explored

Noting that about 10 percent of the student population in Dansville Junior High School is having problems with the normal education program, the Board of Education at its meeting last week began looking for alternate programs.

Don Bartalo, schools superintendent, reported 10 teachers addressed the board concerning the growing number of students who are finding their studies difficult, are discipline problems and are at risk of dropping from school.

He said the faculty members are to return before the board at its next meeting with recommendations for other options.

One possibility is a pilot program slated to be offered in September by Livingston - Steuben - Wyoming BOCES at its campus in Mt. Morris.

Under that program, Bartalo said four eighth graders at the Junior High School considered in need of an alternate program would be selected and enrolled in the BOCES experimental project. They would be among 40 students selected from the 12 schools within the BOCES supervisor district.

He said a temporary facility is

expected to be constructed near the May Center where the students would attend all-day sessions.

The superintendent said the program will be expensive to the district costing about \$6,300 per student per year and would mean a loss of state for those students.

He stated a second option being considered is establishment of a self-contained unit within the district in the next school year in which 15 seventh graders would participate in an alternative setting providing the students with their core subjects, more activity, and would be more career oriented with opportunities for field trips and real life experiences.

Under this program, the teacher would work closely with the children's parents on a regular basis and there would be a "hands on approach" to help students become more successful and reduce their problems.

He said of the 490 students attending the Junior High School, about 40 of them have been identified as not finding success in the regular program.

The board agreed to hire a supervisor for the Junior High

School computer center on an experimental basis.

Bartalo said the person will not be a teacher, but one who is familiar with computers and their use, who will oversee students who are assigned by their English teachers to work with the word processing program.

He said if the project is successful it will be put into the budget for the 1988-89 school year.

In other business, the board: —Approved tenure for Ann Marie McDonald, a remedial reading teacher.

—Approved the recommendations submitted by the AIDS advisory committee. A meeting of district parents is to be scheduled for March when the committee's recommendations will be reviewed.

—Continued to study the proposed district capital improvement projects. Final approval of the work is expected at the board's Tuesday meeting and turned over to the district's architectural firm of Habiterra Associates of Jamestown for recommendations and options.

—Tabled until Mar. 8, approval of a board policy on the extracurricular activity fund.

Annual Show Set in March Lions to Stage Minstrel

Committee for the 16th annual Dansville Lions Club Minstrel Show are now at work.

Following a theme of "That's Show Biz," the production will be staged Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Mar. 10, 11, and 12, in the Senior High School auditorium.

Betty Hayward returns as director as does Donald Snyder as producer. Repeating as musical director is Rachel Hitt and Kelly Kelly is back as accompanist. Choreographer is Marie Ehler who has filled that post for several years.

Jerry Richmond is business manager, Bob Carone is in charge of sound and Mike Depew and Keith Patti are lighting coordinators. Linda Reilly of The Mane Attraction heads the makeup committee while Ralph Domesek returns as publicity

director.

The program committee has Brad Saunders and Mike Blum as co-chairmen. Assisting them are Tony Amico, Mike Depew, Jim DiOrio, Mary Dixon, Terry Harris, Bob Hilliard, George Goodwin, Cas Krochmal, Norm McGowan, Robert Minceo, Ed Worthington, Don Nies and George Lathrop.

C. Edward Hinde is the ticket chairman and is being assisted by Jeff Boor. Serving on the committee are Ron Snyder, Charles Minster, Rich McCaffery, Jim Stafford, Jim Weirich, Courtenay Shera, Tony Amico and Tony Caito.

As in the past years, Don Nies has charge of backdrop design and is being assisted by Mike Blum and Ron Snyder. The chorus seating committee is headed by Larry Ebert and is being helped by Doug

Higgins, Ron Higgins, Richard Gillard, Ron Snyder, Brad Saunders, Bob Hilliard, Craig DeNee and Jim Stafford.

David Redding heads the usher committee which includes Jerry Richmond, Ken Morris, Ray Molyneux, Bob Molyneux, Cas Krochmal, Ed Worthington, Ed Lauffer and Charles Calden.

James Mahoney is in charge of the cast party while Tony Caito headed the chorus call committees which included Ron Snyder, John Bennett, Keith Patti and Craig DeNee. Serving on the stage crew group are Jim DiOrio, Mary Dixon, Terry Harris and Ron Snyder. Chorus costumes will be the responsibility of Terry Wilson, Helen Caito, Johanne Gillard and Marcia DeNee.

Tickets for the Minstrel Show will be on sale each weekday from 4 until 6 p.m. starting Feb. 22 and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until noon in the North Dansville Town Hall lobby. All seats are reserved. Tickets for the Thursday evening performance are \$3 and \$3.50 for the Friday and Saturday evening performances.

All proceeds from the show are earmarked for the Lions Club's community service programs.

List Growth Survey for Dansville

Three study groups will consider six specific areas given priority status for the future growth of the Dansville area.

The assignments were made at a meeting last week of the Dansville Economic Steering Committee by Don Bartalo, chairman, following a review of a survey taken earlier among business people and community leaders.

The areas of consideration for each group are: Preserving what the community presently has, and revitalizing Main Street and the business district. James Yost heads the group.

Robert Matthews, with his committee, will look at ways to attract business to Dansville, and establishment of an industrial site.

The area of studies for the group headed by Ruth Mills include promoting the community, and exploring the duties of professional developers and their costs.

Bartalo said the groups will meet on their own. Reports of their findings are to be made at the Steering Committee's next meeting Mar. 1 when the parent group will start the process of developing specific recommendations to be presented to the community.

Patchin Family Helped Shape Wayland History

Wayland is Wayland—but it wasn't always that way.

In fact, it came 140 years ago when two gentlemen were in conversation trying to think of a name for the budding settlement. It resulted from a tune one of them was whistling during their deliberations.

All this and a little more of the area story came to light recently when Martin J. Quans was going through some family papers. In them he found a 1934 newspaper account of the death of Gordon M. Patchin, the family for which Patchinville was named.

The Quans family—Martin's parents were Martin G. and Margaret—were neighbors to the Patchin family. Martin J. still lives there in the community along Route 21 about three miles out of Wayland and has become senior among residents there. And he well remembers the Patchins from his days as a youth on the farm.

History is revealed in the death notice which follows.

On Friday, December 13th, occurred the death of Gordon Myron Patchin at his farm home in Patchinville, where he was born December 26, 1847.

Mr. Patchin had always been an ardent friend of the town of Wayland, and had worked for its interests with unflinching energy.

He termed himself as a "plain dirt farmer," but everyone knew his hobby was "politics."

He was Republican county committeeman for some thirty years and served four years as member of Assembly. He was very active in politics until his declining years made it impossible.

He was the son of Myron M. and Rosella P. Patchin, the elder of four children. Mrs. Grace Sprague, Mrs. Cortrude Baker and Mrs. Cora Green, having preceded him.

The history of Wayland is closely allied with the life of the

Patchin family. The grandfather, Walter Patchin, born in 1764 at Norwalk, Conn., came with his parents to Ballston, Saratoga, where he later as a member of the Continental army took part in the defense of the town against the British and Indians, receiving wounds for which he was pensioned by the government. He subsequently settled in Marcellus, Onondaga county, for a time, but deciding "to go west" came by ox cart to this section in 1814, where he took up a large tract of land, and built a log cabin almost upon the site of the present Patchin homestead.

While coming down the east Patchin hill, where the road later came, one of his oxen broke its neck, a great catastrophe to a pioneer farmer. He learned of Benjamin Perkins that a settler near Danville had an ox which could be purchased. Mr. Perkins, to assist Mr. Patchin, picked up a chip and scratched "B.P." Thereon, handing it to Patchin. He in turn gave it to the owner of the ox, and returned with the ox, this being the first record of a bank-check in the town.

Patchinville soon had a saw mill, a tavern (1824), a store, blacksmith shop and postoffice. Wayland at this time did not exist. A corduroy road across the swamp was a part of the stage coach route from Newton (Elmira) to Dansville. At Patchinville tavern the post horses were changed and mails shifted.

To one of Walter Patchin's sons, Myron M. and John Hess, Wayland is responsible for its name. "Millville" had been rejected because of its similarity to name of many other towns. Myron Patchin, while trying to think of a name for the proposed new town reflectively whistled the tune, "Wayland." Straightway Mr. Hess and he considered it an omen, and named the town in accordance. Their petition was granted at the

last session of the legislature on April 12, 1848, and Wayland was formed from Dansville and Cohocton.

Gordon M., the only son of Myron M., was educated at Franklin Academy, Prattburgh, and was a leader in county Republican politics from his youth, having been a delegate to a nominating convention before he cast his first vote. He later served as assemblyman from this district in four terms, commencing in 1892. Mr. Patchin never married. His sister, Mrs. Green, kept his home for many years. She, however, died about two years ago.

Mr. Patchin, always a farmer, was well known in the community and enjoyed by the younger generation for the stories of olden times on which he was an authority. He recalled and vividly described the suppressed family excitement when selves were passed through their hands on their route to Canada by the underground railway, so-called.

He is survived by cousins, B.C. Patchin of Patchinville, Dr. C.V. Patchin and Mrs. Elizabeth Kennedy of Dansville, the Waite cousins of Atlanta and one niece, Mrs. Edward F. Wetmiller of Cohocton.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at 2:30 from his late home, Rev. Clara E. Morgan of Cohocton officiating. Interment was in the family plot in East Wayland.

Former Supreme Court Justice William W. Clark of this village, for many years a close friend, in commenting on the deceased, said: "For more than fifty years Mr. Patchin was a very prominent Republican politician in Steuben county, courageous, clear headed, loyal to friends and had a real genius for politics. For many years he was a close friend and co-worker with the late John F. Parkhurst, political leader of the

county, and close friend and loyal supporter of the late Senator Thomas C. Platt. In the death of Mr. Patchin, Steuben county has

sustained a real loss and his life and good deeds will always be treasured by the citizens of Wayland."



CHANGING SCENE — This is a view of The Rocks as seen from the Poags Hole Road Bridge as it crosses Canaseraga Creek. Water from springs freezing on the shale cliff creates an ever changing facade depending on temperatures.